

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
FEB 08 2006

PATENT  
App. Ser. No.: 09/848,573  
Atty. Dkt. No. ROC920010064US1  
PS Ref. No.: IBMK10064

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Cary Lee Bates et al.

Serial No.: 09/848,573

Confirmation No.: 6829

Filed: May 3, 2001

For: Systems and Methods for  
Operating Vending Machines

§ Group Art Unit: 3627

§ Examiner: Andrew J. Fischer

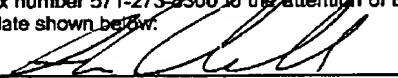
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 571-273-8300, to the attention of Examiner Andrew J. Fischer, on the date shown below.

February 8, 2006  
Date

  
Gero G. McClellan

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 14, 2005

In response to the Office Action dated October 14, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response extended to expire on February 14, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. While no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 09-0465/ROC920010064US1 for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

Page 1

427063\_1